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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : Confirmation No. 6498
Naoaki KATAOKA et al. : Docket No.2001-0978/MJ/00325
Serial No. 09/900,141 : Group Art Unit 1744
Filed July 9, 2001 : Examiner W. Beisner

#17
a b.
7/9/03

METHOD FOR PURIFYING MATTER CONTAMINATED WITH HALOGENATED
ORGANIC COMPOUNDS

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated June 3, 2003 in which Election of Species has been required, Applicants hereby elect the invention identified as Species i) directed to a method of treating contaminated material containing a halogenated compound which method includes maintaining ORP of not more than -350 mV for at least 5 days using a combination of a reducing agent and a water-soluble organic nutritional liquid (claims 41-43, 45-47, 53-58, 61 and 65).

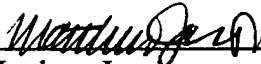
The Official Action has also required Applicants to list all claims readable on the elected Species and it appears that the above indicated claims are readable on the elected Species, but for claim 56 which appears to be readable on Species ii) involving the use of a metal alloy.

It is considered that both of Species i) and ii) should be examined together since Species i) is generic to Species ii).

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 3, 2003